

Parent Newsletter

The 2010-2011 school year has just begun. Let's work together to make this a great year!

August-September 2010



Important Dates

8-2-10 First day of school

9-1-10 Open House

9-10-10 End of 1st Six Weeks

9-15-10 Blackman High Cultural Appreciation Day

Reading at Home

It is important for your child to take advantage of time at home in order to improve his or her linguistic skills. Reading, whether it is in L1 or L2, is a very beneficial way of building those skills. Here are some tips:

- Make sure your child has access to books and other reading materials (newspapers, magazines, etc.) (Raising... n.d.)
- Find books for your child that match his or her interests (Raising... n.d.)
- Sign your child up for a library card at the local library (addresses and phone numbers below) (Raising... n.d.).
- Reading materials can be in English or in your child's first language. As a matter of fact, I encourage children to continue reading in their native language in order to build literacy in that language.



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More Tips For Parents

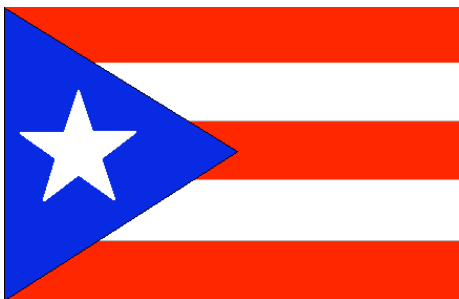
“Children are the world’s most valuable resource and its best hope for the future” John F. Kennedy, 35th President

- If your child is reading in English, make sure that he or she has a bilingual dictionary that will help him or her learn unfamiliar words.
- Ask your children about books that they are reading. Encourage them to talk to you about the stories.
- Encourage your child to read aloud when reading

English. Doing so helps him or her to develop pronunciation and a better understanding of phonics. (National Literacy Panel n.d.)

- Encourage your child to keep up with current events. If you have access to a newspaper, encourage your child to read and discuss the news with you.
- The Internet has a vast

quantity of websites that can help your child improve his or her literacy skills in English. You can either use the Internet at home or at the local public library. I will provide links below.





Important Information

Below, I have listed the names and addresses of three local libraries. I have also listed some valuable resources to help you and your child in the community and in learning English.

Smyrna Public Library

400 Enon Springs Rd. West
Smyrna, TN
615-459-4884

Linbaugh Public Library

105 W. Vine St., Murfreesboro TN
615-893-4131

Myrtle Glanton Lord Library

Patterson Park Community Center,
521 Mercury Blvd., Murfreesboro
TN 615-907-3429

Tennessee Immigrant and Refugee Rights Coalition

446 Metroplex Dr. Building A,
Suite 224 Nashville, TN 37211
615-833-0384

<http://www.tnimmigrant.org/>

Tennessee Foreign Language Institute- Adult ESL classes

227 French Landing Dr
Nashville, TN 37228
877-275-8354
<http://tfli.org/esl.aspx>

Websites for you and your child

American Folklore-This website has short stories that you're you and your child can enjoy! Designed for English language learners.

<http://www.americanfolklore.net/esl-reading.html>

100 Free Short Stories for ESL Learners

<http://www.rongchang.com/qa2/>

Dave's ESL Café – This website has numerous resources for ESL students.

<http://www.eslcafe.com/>

ESL Gold – Endless resources for English language learners.

Free English Language Learning Materials -

<http://www.eslreading.org/>

Este boletín de noticias es disponible en español



“Only the educated are free” – Epictetus

Sources

National Literacy Panel on Language Minority Children and Youth. ***Developing Literacy in Second-Language Learners***. U.S. Department of Education, Institute of Education Sciences. Retrieved from <http://www.cal.org/projects/archive/natlitpanel.html>

Raising an Avid Reader: Learn How to Encourage, Teach, and Educate Your Children About Reading (n.d.). *Parent News*. Retrieved from <http://www.parent.net/article/kids-reading.shtml>

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Steven Robinson 5-26-10
